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Customer No. 28596
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

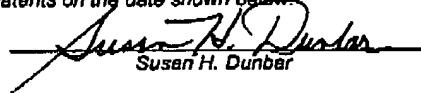
In re Application of: Hisano et al.

Serial No.: 10/798,067

Filed: March 11, 2004

For: Closed Annular Sealing Material and
Method for Manufacturing Same

) Group Art Unit: 3676
) Examiner: Vishal A. Patel
)
) *I hereby certify that this correspondence is being*
) *facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for*
) *Patents on the date shown below:*


Susan H. Dunbar

June 30, 2006
(date of faxing document)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Claims 1, 10, 13, 14, and 19 were rejected in an Office Action dated December 30, 2005. Applicants respectfully request reexamination of the instant application. In response to the Office Action, please consider the remarks provided herein and editorially amend the above-identified patent application, as follows: